



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: August 5, 2008

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department
Youth Services Division, Library Department

SUBJECT: Anti-Defamation League Designation As A Community Of Respect

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive the Anti-Defamation League Designation for the City of Santa Barbara as building a Community of Respect™.

DISCUSSION:

A Community of Respect™ is a place where individuals appreciate each other's differences and work together to create an atmosphere of respect and understanding. It is a component of the No Place for Hate® community education program developed by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), one of the nation's premier civil rights and human relations agencies. In celebration of the 5th anniversary of this community education program, the City of Santa Barbara joined numerous other local agencies, schools, businesses, and individuals to help ensure that Santa Barbara is a Community of Respect™ through a variety of creative educational approaches.

The City of Santa Barbara sponsored a number of activities over the past year in support of the program, including:

- Excursion to the Museum of Tolerance for families
- Anti-bullying and English language learners training provided to Parks and Recreation Afterschool Program staff
- Mayor reads to students at the Eastside Library from a book with the theme of tolerance and respect
- Book selections reflecting anti-defamation themes were featured in Library lobby display case.
- Library hosted Recreation afterschool programs to conduct ADL activities to promote respect and tolerance including some short films.

On May 21, 2008, City staff was present at the Anti-Defamation League's reception to receive the designation certificate presented to the City of Santa Barbara as building a Community of Respect™. Staff intends to continue the program in the coming year and encourage participation by more City departments.

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APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office